FINE ARTS.

MR. PRANG'S DEFENSE.

As will have been seen by a letter which we published in THE TRIBUNE of last Saturday, Mr. L. Prang, a lithographer doing business in Boston, is very much disturbed by the remarks which we made a few days ago upon some specimens of his workmanship sent to us by him, with a request that we would give the public our critical opinion of them. Our readers do not need to be told that the duty of passing judgment is a thankless office; they will easily guess as much; they probably know without our saying it, that, although the amount of flattery which people will swallow without making wry faces has never been definitely ascertained, but is believed to be immeasurable, not one in a hundred but has his stomach turned by the smallest dose of censure or question. Mr. Prang is no exception to this invariable rule, and, indeed, we do not know why he should be. He is a man of business, and, we are glad to believe, a successful one. His wares are for sale, and he is commendably eager to sell them. He is a shrewd, practical, energetic man, who, we have no doubt, is as sincere as he can afford to be in his desire to advance the cause of art, and who believes that, by making his own fortune honestly, he will help on the great cause of progress. He is naturally much alarmed at the prospect of the public coming to disappove his manufactures, and accordingly writes half a column to prove that we know very little of our business as critics; and there is no doubt that, if he had our place, his own wares, at least, would be well spoken of, no matter what might happen to those of other people. We published his letter, although we thought it would have been as well, for him, if he had not written it. He is quite welcome to his opinion on the subject of chromo-lithography, and quite welcome to believe that a millennial day for Art is to be ushered in through this invention. We do not greatly care to discuss the subject with him. We can hardly believe Mr. Prang in earnest when he talks about our aristocratic prejudices, and charges us with a desire to condemn and drive out of use an invention that is capable of cheaply ministering to the honest pleasure of large numbers of people. We must believe he knows a great deal better than to talk such stuff. We are more charitable to him than he is disposed to be to us. We are trying our best to teach people what is good Art and what is bad, and we believe he thinks he is working as hard in the same cause as we. It happens, that we differ as to the means it is best to employ, to secure the desired end. We are trying to elevate people by teaching them to seek for and admire what is true, believing that to be the only means of really elevating the mind and character. Mr. Prang's method is, to teach people to admire what is false, and he thinks that when he has succeeded in completely deceiving them, they are on the high road to true culture and refinement. And he is just as willfully mistaken when he talks about our dislike of chromo-lithography. We have praised his own publications in these columns, many times, and it is not many weeks since we made Kellerhoven's magnificent reproductions of old German pictures the subject of a special article; beside that we are always ready to acknowledge the services it has done for us, and is ever doing, in publications like those of the Arundel Society, in Owen Jones's magnificent "Grammar of Ornament" and "Alhambra," and in the rare and precious "Le Moyen Age et La Renaissance." All that we said was, that every art has its own independent field of work, and that nothing is gained by trying to imitate in one process the legitimate results of another. We quote from memory, but this is the gist of what we said. Now Mr. Prang prides himself on having published imitations of oil paintings that will deceive even good judges. He uses a paper that is made to look precisely like canvas, and copies the strokes of the artist's brush. We say, and are prepared to maintain, that this is a childish waste of time on his part, and that the work is fit only for children. What pleasure can a man take in such toys? They are in the same category with "grating," as it is called—painting a cheap wood to resemble a dear one; with wall-papers that look like wood or marble; with iron or slate mantel-pieces that may be taken for costly stone. They are of a piece with false diamonds, false hair, false teeth, and with the innumerable false appliances by which homely people try to make themselves look pretty, and succeed in making themselves hideous. Every artist knows this, every unprejudiced person knows it, and we shall maintain the doctrine always, in the interests of true art. We have said that chromo-lithography is not Art at all, and we repeat it. It is a mere mechanic process, and one will a very useful, but a very narrow legitimate field. Its business is simply to reproduce, not to imitate—meaning by "*imitation*," "*deception*." It is the proper business of no art or process to deceive—any more than it is the business of a tongue to lie. This invention has its clear, legitimate function, just as wood engraving has, and it is Mr. Prang, and not we, who shows ignorance in declaring that it has not. We have always battled against deceptive imitations, and we shall continue to do so, and when we are converted to a contrary opinion it will be by some one who has no pecuniary interest in maintaining it. We were once living in a house the landlord of which, much against our will, sent a painter to "grain" the front door to look like black walnut. On the landlord's departure we blandly endeavored to wheedle the painter into making as few knots, defects, grains, and flourishes as possible, and to keep the whole of as uniform and even a color as he could; in short, to make it suggest black walnut, or any wood, as little as he knew how. The man of the brush heard us through with ill-concealed disdain, and when we had finished exclaimed, "What, Sir! won't you let a feller's genius have scope?" Mr. Prang's rejoinder has not the brevity of the house-painter's, but it comes to the same thing. House-painting and chromo-lithography are both useful in their way, and respectable as long as they keep within their natural bounds; but, when they try to overpass their limits and to intrude where they do not belong, they must be sharply rebuked.

It is hardly worth while for us to say anything in reply to Mr. Prang's sneer at our limited acquaintance with the process of chromo-lithography. We believe we sufficiently understand the nature of it, and we understood it before, two years ago, Mr. Prang was so obliging as to take us through his work-room, and explain the whole matter to us step by step. But, there is a side to this question that we must consider, in the interest of artists, if not of art, and we are not sorry that Mr. Prang's letter gives us a text to speak on. In writing of the pictures which he sent us the other day, we said that although the audience he is working for is not a critical one, and this will hardly bear disputing, yet nevertheless it has its rights, and one of these is, to know the names of the men whose works give them pleasure. We, then, found fault with him for omitting Mr. Tait's name from his last picture "Ducklings," and for putting on it, instead, the name of one "Harring," and also for putting, under another picture, "The Baby," the words, "after a French water-color," when in reality it is a copy from a well-known picture by Bouguereau, a distinguished modern French painter. These were our two charges, and if Mr. Prang, knowing as he did, that we understated rather than exaggerated the facts, had had a little more worldly wisdom, he would have maintained a judicious silence with regard to them. He is so foolish, however, as to attempt a defense, and we shall accordingly state the whole truth in regard to this matter.

It is true, as Mr. Prang says, that Mr. Tait's name is printed upon the "Ducklings;" but, it is untrue that we committed a blunder in saying that it is *not* there. Any person, by stepping into Mr. Knoedler's and asking for a copy of this chromo-lithograph, will find Mr. Harring's name—he is the man employed to make these lithographs—clearly printed in dark color at the right-hand side, but he will be very much puzzled to find Mr. Tait's name, and very likely, will not succeed in finding it at all. On a copy which we have since examined at Goupil's Mr. Tait's name could only be found by taking the picture into a strong light and turning the paper so as to get the full benefit of the reflection. It was no "blunder," therefore, on our part, for did Mr. Prang hear of it from us for the first time. Mr. Tait's friends had called his attention to the matter as a thing like to injure him, and he himself had remonstrated with Mr. Prang on the subject; and had been promised that the matter should be set right in subsequent issues. It seems, therefore, that our blunder was committed in good company. Now, we deny Mr. Prang's right to put the name of his workman on the picture of any artist, and he will find that Mr. Tait objects to it quite as strongly as we do, and will not permit it; would never have permitted it, if he had been consulted. Nor would any artist whose reputation has any money value. To the public at large, this picture, when framed and hung on the wall, is not painted by Mr. Tait, but, by a new and unknown person, one Harring, a transfer to which the real painter has a right to object. To avoid a prosecution it may be convenient for the publisher to prove that the artist's name is really on the picture, though printed in such a way as to escape notice; but, to all intents and purposes, the name is suppressed.

Having disposed of this matter, we have only to say, with regard to the chromo-lithograph from Bouguereau, that Mr. Prang's statement that he did not know his "The Baby" to be a copy of Bouguereau's picture does him very little credit, and argues a slim acquaintance with contemporary art. The picture was exhibited for some weeks at Goupil's, was in the exhibition of the Artists' Fund Society last year, has been finely photographed by Goupil, and is now in the possession of a gentleman of this city, of whose gallery it is one of the chief ornaments. Yet Mr. Prang publishes a chromo-lithograph of this picture, taken probably from a colored photograph, and calls it "The Baby," "from a French water-color drawing," and when we mention this as an objectionable thing to do, he says we charge him with an attempt at fraud. This we did not, yet, if we had, he could only have disproved it by establishing his ignorance on a point where he had no business to be ignorant.

Moreover, if we are right in supposing that the "French water-color" was, in reality, Goupil's photograph colored, Mr. Prang's blunder in not seeing Bouguereau's name upon it, is quite a match for our's in not seeing Tait's name on his chromo-lithograph. For, in the lower left-hand corner, one may see, plainly written, "W. Bouguereau, 186." But, as he had no moral right (and, with a person of such fine sentiments, we should think the moral aspect of the matter would have been as much considered as the legal,) to make a copy Goupil's photograph, and injure its sale, it may have seemed discreeter to conceal the precedillo by a little prevarication. It was discreet, but the honesty of it may be questioned, and we leave the matter to the decision of our readers.

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WATERS'S SQUARE and UPRIGHT PIANOS, MELODEONS and CABINET ORGANS, the best manufactured, to LET, and rent allowed if purchased. Monthly payments received for the same. Second-hand Pianos at bargains, from $60 to $225. Old pianos taken in exchange. Liberal discount to teachers and clergymen. Cash paid for second-hand pianos. Pianos tuned and repaired. New 7-octave Pianos for $175 and upward. Warerooms, No. 481 Broadway, N. Y. HORACE WATERS.

$125.—A six-octave PIANO for $125; a fine seven-octave for $270. New Pianos to LET. With privilege to purchase, at the manufactory, Nos. 126 and 128 East 23d-st., between 2d and 3d-aves. J. P. CUMMINGS.

Copartnership Notices.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION.—The copartnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the firm name of Smith & Hall, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Either party will sign in liquidation. MARSHALL N. SMITH, CHARLES HALL.
New-York, Dec. 1, 1866.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—Marshall N. Smith of the Town of Orange, Essex Co., N. J., Charles Hall of the City of New-York, and Charles W. Budd of Brewster Station, Putnam Co., N. Y., have this day formed a copartnership for the manufacture and sale of Fur and Wool Hats. Said copartnership will be known as New-York under the name of SMITH, HALL & BUDD, at Orange, N. J., under that of MARSHALL N. SMITH & Co.; and at Brewster, N. Y., by that of C. W. BUDD & Co.
MARSHALL N. SMITH,
CHARLES HALL,
CHARLES W. BUDD.
New-York, Dec. 1, 1866.

Wedding Cards, &c.

AT WM. EVERDELL'S SONS, No. 104 Fulton-st.—WEDDING CARDS and FINE STATIONERY. (Established 1815.)

Hotels, &c.

AMERICAN HOTEL, Broadway and Eighth-st., New-York, on the EUROPEAN PLAN. Rooms in suites or singly, at moderate rates.

ST. JOHN HOTEL, Broadway, near Eighth-st., New-York, on the EUROPEAN PLAN, centrally located and newly fitted up, is now open. Rooms en suite and singly, handsomely furnished for families and single gentlemen. Guests furnished with private table if desired. Single rooms from $6 per week upward.

THE ASHLAND HOUSE,
Fourth-ave and Twenty-fourth-st.
Single Gentlemen or Families can make advantageous arrangements for Permanent BOARD.
Transient $3 per day.
For those traveling the situation is unsurpassed—being only two blocks from Harlem and New-Haven Railroad—with two lines of city cars and one of stages passing the door.

Board and Rooms.

A SECOND FLOOR, handsomely furnished, to let to a gentleman and wife; private table if desired; private family. No. 131 West Fourteenth-st. References exchanged.

A GENTLEMAN, WIFE and BOY want BOARD in a private family, with a front room and hall bedroom, including fire and gas. Location must be good, and terms not above $25 per week. Address J. B. C., Post-Office.

BOARDING—For Gentlemen, Price $5 50 to $6 50 per week. No. 1 Monroe-st., cor. Catherine-st.

BOARD with pleasant ROOMS for a Gentleman and Wife, and two single Gentlemen at No. 161 East Thirty-third-st. near Lexington-ave. Terms moderate.

BOARDING WANTED.—A Pianist of the highest order, who can give the most excellent references, desires to obtain board in a family of refinement, where his services as a teacher of the piano would be taken in exchange of his board or part of it. Address C. C., Box No. 3,920 P. O. N. Y. City.

FIRST-CLASS BOARD and pleasant and neat ROOMS can now be secured at No. 62 Columbia-st., Brooklyn Heights, three minutes' walk from Fulton Ferry.

HANDSOMELY FURNISHED ROOMS—For families and single gentlemen, at the St. John Hotel, newly opened. Single rooms from $6 per week upward. Broadway, near Eighth-st., New-York.

SITUATION WANTED by a responsible woman to TAKE CHARGE of a family of CHILDREN at her own home in a beautiful village in New-Jersey; unexceptionable city references given. Address COUNTRY BOARD, Matteawan, New-Jersey.

To Let.

TO RENT—Furnished and unfurnished HOUSES. A few left. S. W. BENEDICT, No. 4 and 6 Pine-st.

Real Estate for Sale.

ALL WANTING FARMS,
GOOD FARM AND WELL-PROVED FRUIT LANDS,
IMPROVED PLACES ALSO FOR SALE,
Address CHAS. K. LANDIS, Proprietor, Vineland, N.J. Papers containing information sent free.
From Report of Solon Robinson, Agricultural Editor of The Tribune: "*It is one of the most extensive fertile tracts, in an almost level section, and within a condition for pleasant farming that we know of this side of the Western Prairies.*"

ATTENTION! ALL WANTING FARMS!—Cheap FARM and FRUIT LANDS, Village Lots, Water Powers for manufacturing, for SALE, at BRICKSBURG, OCEAN COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY, 44 miles from New-York on railroad to Philadelphia. Sell fine loam superior for silkworm. Country just rolling enough for beauty and utility. Climate mild and proverbial healthy. Water soft and pure. No fever and ague. Soil only to actual settlers, on easy terms. Price per acre, $25 and upward.
For circulars and maps, address as above.
ROBERT CAMPBELL, President.
W. J. PARMENTIER, Selling Agent, Bricksburg.

AN ELEGANT FRUIT FARM, 150 acres, superior soil; 65 acres in fruit; 4,500 trees in full bearing good and abundant bearing; 7½ miles of depot, ½ mile of village, only $11,000. Also, 193 acres, all fine land, 22 acres in Orchards, all kinds of fruit grown; new buildings; very cheap, only $8,500. Both near New Brunswick. J. S. FERGUSON & Co., No. 39 Nassau-st., Room No. 24.

AT METUCHEN—16 acres, good buildings, $2,100; 3½ acres, good house, barn and fruit, $2,000; 5½ acre, fine improvements and fruit, $2,500; 26 acres, good buildings and fruit, $3,500; 13 acres, splendid buildings, $10,000; 18 acres, elegant improvements, abundance of fruit, very choice, $14,000; 26 acres, fine large bat-bldg., first-class place, stock and crops, only $18,000. Ad. J. S. FERGUSON & Co., No. 39 Nassau-st., Room No. 24.

A COUNTRY RESIDENCE for SALE—Delightfully located on high ground, forty minutes from city, via Harlem Railroad, and but five minutes walk from depot. The house contains 13 rooms, with heater, range and water, and well shaded. About 13 City lots, filled with the choicest of fruits; barn and stable. Ad. Mrs. D. S. LEWIS, Tremont, N. Y.

A DESIRABLE RESIDENCE, completely FURNISHED, suitable for Winter or Summer, one hour from New-York, all modern improvements; grounds tastefully laid out. Price $25,000. Must be sold. Terms easy. TERRY & BERGAN, No. 206 Broadway, Room No. 11.

A FIRST-CLASS COUNTRY PLACE in Llewellyn Park (only one hour from Barclay-st.) for SALE. Also, a COTTAGE, with four acres of land, at $9,000, and a picturesque BUILDING LOT of eight acres, partially improved, beside a few LOTS of five acres, beautifully wooded, in the Park. Apply to the proprietor, L. S. HASKELL, Library Building, Orange, N. J.

AN extraordinary productive FARM, 200 acres, in Monmouth Co. Marl of best quality in great abundance, a wealth of itself; good buildings, choice fruit, some fine timber; near railroad. Call on JAQUES, No. 206 Broadway.

A SPLENDID new Brown-stone high stoop HOUSE for SALE cheap, five minutes walk from Central Park; House and location first class. Immediate possession. Inquire on premises No. 27 Sixth-st., north side, near Lexington-ave. of JOHN GLASS.

A SPLENDID TRACT OF LAND in Wisconsin; would exchange for good Merchandise and pay $3,000 to $10,000 in cash, if good trade. JAQUES, No. 206 Broadway.

BROADWAY PROPERTY FOR SALE.—FOR SALE, by order of the Executors of Ann Fitch, deceased, the property known as Nos. 52, 54, 56, 58 and 60 Broadway, and Nos. 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, and 43 New-st., and known as THE PUBLIC STORES, having a frontage on Broadway of about 125 feet, about 130 feet on New-st., and a rear exchange place of about 124 feet, and on the southerly line of about 134 feet, being the largest compact parcel of improved real estate offered for sale south of the City Hall. The lots are covered by substantial and costly Warehouses, erected for the late owner, and are to be sold either subject to a lease to the United States Government expiring on the 1st of May next, or for full and free possession at that date. One half of the purchase money can remain on bond or mortgage at 7 per cent for a term of years, or all can be paid on delivery of the deed. For further particulars inquire of HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine-st. (677)

BARGAINS.—First-class FARMS in New-Jersey, also in Mohawk Valley, all sizes, all prices; terms easy. Also, MILLS, STORES, HOTELS, &c. Call on JAQUES, No. 206 Broadway.

CASTLE HOWARD FARM.—The subscriber will offer the above place on which he now resides at public sale, on the 20th of December, at 2 o'clock p. m., on the premises. The estate contains 112 acres, more or less, situated on the turnpike between Pittsfield and Lenox. It adjoins Lenox Furnace, and the same distance from the two railroad stations. The land is in a good state of cultivation. It contains wood, meadow, and tillable land, without any waste or wet ground. A lawn in front and around the house, between five and six acres, with a fine growth of pine, spruce, and other trees. The dwelling is situated about 500 feet from the turnpike, on rising ground. The house is large and particularly convenient; outbuildings good, and sufficient to house the crops. It has a frontage on the turnpike of 2,500 feet, more or less, with several sites for building, and in an improving neighborhood. Further description unnecessary, as persons can view the property themselves.—Princeton, New-Jersey, Nov. 24, 1866. Sale THURSDAY, December 20.
THOMAS LAVENDER.

ELEGANT COUNTRY PLACE, near Saratoga, For SALE, a finely situated and productive FARM of 96 acres, 2½ miles west of